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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN PHARMACY

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1927

DIVISION OF REGISTRATION

Mass., DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE AND REGISTRATION, *Division*
of registration



4

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN PHARMACY

BOSTON, MASS., NOVEMBER 30, 1927

To WILLIAM F. CRAIG, *Director of Registration.*

Sir:

As required by statute, the Board of Registration in Pharmacy will endeavor to outline in this its forty-second report the activities of its administration during the year ending November 30, 1927.

The total number of drug stores in the State at the present time is 1916 and this, in comparison with a population of over four million, should permit favorable trade conditions. Massachusetts has a little better average than the United States as a whole which is estimated to have one drug store to every 2000 persons. The stores, however, are not evenly distributed in this State, some communities being somewhat over supplied. 71 stores have been closed and 93 stores opened, or a net increase over last year of 22. The amount received from fees for permits (as shown elsewhere in this report) greatly exceeds the number of stores in existence at the end of the fiscal year owing to the changes of ownership, each change requiring a new permit for which fee is paid.

When a change of ownership takes place or a new store started the conditions are carefully investigated. No new store is granted a permit until it has a complete stock of drugs and equipment.

The agent has made approximately 400 investigations of special complaints during the year. Many of these were followed by hearings before the Board, and included 50 prosecutions in court of persons operating unauthorized drug stores. This work has taken the Agent from one end of the State to the other, often requiring several trips on the same matter, leaving little time for routine inspections.

The attitude of the majority of druggists has been unfavorable to the handling of liquors. This is shown by the fact that out of 1916 stores, only 859 were in possession of third class licenses at the closing of this report. The amount received from liquor fees, as given in the tabulation of income, includes liquor certificates granted the previous license year ending May 1st, 1927.

A law regulating the sale of caustic and corrosive substances was enacted as chapter 224, Acts of 1927. This requires that corrosive substances be labelled with a distinctive poison label. Although not required by law to do so previous to this enactment, druggists have made a practice of labelling most of these corrosives in the manner now required by statute. Copies of this law have been mailed by our Board to the trade, the law becoming effective January 1st.

A bill providing for the re-appointment of members was enacted as chapter 81, Acts of 1927. If the Governor so desires, he may now re-appoint a member whose term is expiring, and who by reason of his experience in the work of the Board is better fitted to fulfill the duties required of him.

The twenty-fourth annual convention of the National Association of Pharmacy Boards was held at St. Louis, Missouri August 22d and 23d. Our Board was not successful this year in securing the appointment of a delegate from the Governor, and was not represented as in previous years. The president of the Massachusetts Board, however, was elected chairman of the Committee on Prerequisite Legislation. The states of New Jersey and Rhode Island have been added to the list of reciprocal states during the year. One registration was granted by this Board to an applicant from New Jersey and a number of applications have been received for reciprocity with Rhode Island which are now pending.

The Board has held 39 hearings relative to cases based upon violations of Federal regulations. The results of these hearings will be found in the tabulated report of the Secretary. The fact that the Board has power to suspend

or revoke a pharmacist's right to conduct his store, means more to him than his fine in court or the revocation of his Federal permit, hence the importance of the Board's work as a quasi-judicial body. In most cases the permittee is represented by counsel and witnesses are examined in much the same manner as in a court of law.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF LEGISLATION

By act of the Legislature, approved June 11, 1885, the Board of Registration in Pharmacy was established with various functions including the examination of persons who desired to become registered as pharmacists. The statute at that time designated the fee for first examination as \$5. and that of re-examination as \$3. During these forty-two years the cost of examination has increased approximately 100 per cent, and the Board desires legislation which will adjust the fees to cover the present expense.

The Board also desires an amendment requiring college graduation for entrance to examination for Registered Pharmacists. Such a requirement would insure better training in the fundamental principles of pharmacy with the result that the public would be more intelligently served. During the past year California, the District of Columbia and Wisconsin were successful in obtaining college prerequisite laws. This brings the total number of prerequisite states to thirty-one, with four additional states requiring one or two years of college attendance but not graduation. It is therefore apparent that Massachusetts is backward in the enactment of legislation which is universally acknowledged as a measure in the interests of public welfare.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM R. ACHESON, *President.*

CHARLES W. KING, *Secretary.*

LEON C. ELLIS.

WILLIAM HARDIE.

FREDERICK W. ARCHER.

EXAMINATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS PHARMACISTS.

Date	Number examined	Number passed
January 25	55	24
March 15	64	25
April 26	63	22
June 2	56	27
June 21	61	17
October 4	63	22
November 29	62	23
Totals	424	160

EXAMINATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS ASSISTANTS.

February 15	50	20
June 22	63	30
November 1	50	27
Totals	163	77

The following table shows the number of successful applicants who had either graduated or were students in recognized college of pharmacy:—

	Registered Pharmacists	Registered Assistants
Total number of persons registered	160	77
Number of graduates passing	79	8
Number of undergraduates passing	57	54
Percentage of college trained men passing	85%	80.5%

REGISTRATION OF PHARMACISTS.

The following table shows the registration of pharmacists through interstate reciprocity:—

State in which applicant had been registered.	Number registered.
New Jersey	1
Maine	10
New Hampshire	3
Vermont	2
Louisiana	1
Colorado	1

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The following table shows the net amount received from fees and paid into the Treasury of the Commonwealth:—

2,296 Permits at \$5.	\$11,480.00
970 Liquor Certificates at \$5.	4,850.00
230 Examinations (1st exam.) at \$5.	1,150.00
368 Examinations (re-exam.) at \$3.	1,104.00
28 Registration by reciprocity at \$10	280.00
9 Duplicate certificates at \$5.	45.00
47 Certified statements at \$1.	47.00
Bank interest credited	15.95
Total	\$18,971.95

The following appropriations were expended during the year:—

Purpose of appropriation	Amount Appropriated	Amount Expended
Salaries of the Board	\$3,800	\$3,707.79
Salary of the Agent	2,160	2,160.00
Travel of Board and Agent	4,500	4,408.00
	\$12,460	\$12,263.74

The Board has paid into the Treasury in excess of its expenses, \$6,708.21. This is exclusive of clerks which are furnished by the Director of Registration as in the case of all office employees of the registration boards:—

Amount paid into the Treasury of the Commonwealth from fees received by the Board,	\$18,971.95
Amount expended from appropriations,	12,263.74
	\$6,708.21

SUMMARY.

Meetings.

Number of meetings held for examinations,	10
Number of meetings held for hearings and other business,	33
Total number of meetings,	43

Hearings.

Hearings relative to cases based upon court convictions of violations,	39
Hearings relative to cases based upon Federal permit revocations,	33
Hearings relative to violations reported direct to the Board,	18
Hearings relative to applications for reciprocity, drug store permits, liquor certificates, etc	110
Total number of hearings,	200

Findings.

Drug store permits revoked,	6
Drug store permits suspended,	14
Number of Registered Pharmacist's personal certificates revoked,	2
Number of Registered Pharmacist's personal certificates suspended	11
Number of Assistant Pharmacist's personal certificates suspended	2
Number of liquor certificates revoked,	8
Number of persons refused permits (not granted upon any re-application)	23
Number of persons refused liquor certificates (not granted upon any re-application)	43
Number of persons placed on probation after hearings,	26

Respectfully,
CHARLES W. KING.

Secretary.